



**EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICE COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE ACTION SUBCOMMITTEE**

May 19, 2005

9:00 a.m.

Michigan State Police – Headquarters

MEMBERS	REPRESENTING
Lt. Col. Thomas Miller, Chair	Department of State Police
Ms. Harriet Miller-Brown	Department of State Police
Ms. Pat Anderson	SBC
Ms. Regina Bell	SBC
Ms. Marsha Bianconi	Conference of Western Wayne
Mr. Bill Charon	Ionia County Central Dispatch
Ms. Patricia Coates (by teleconference)	Assoc. of Public Safety Communications Officials
Mr. Robert Currier (by teleconference)	Intrado
Mr. Lloyd Fayling	Genesee County 911
Mr. James Fyvie	Clinton County Central Dispatch
Mr. Andrew Goldberger (by teleconference)	St. Joseph County 911 Dispatch
Ms. Suzan Hensel	National Emergency Number Association
Mr. Charles Nystrom	Barry County Central Dispatch
Mr. David Vehslage	Verizon Wireless
Mr. Joe VanOosterhout (by teleconference)	Marquette County Central Dispatch
ABSENT	
Mr. Dale Berry	Michigan Assoc. of Ambulance Services
Mr. Ralph Gould	Grand Rapids Police Department
Sheriff Dale Gribler	Michigan Sheriffs' Association
Mr. Scott Temple	Commercial Mobile Radio Service
STAFF SUPPORT	
Sgt. Matt Bolger	Department of State Police
Ms. Janet Hengesbach	Department of State Police
OTHERS PRESENT	
Pam Matelski	Department of State Police

Call to Order

Lt. Col. Thomas Miller called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present for the meeting.

Additions to the agenda

Mr. William Charon added Surcharge Accounting and Wireless Surcharge Increase. Ms. Harriet Miller-Brown suggested that Wireless Surcharge be discussed during the Prepaid Wireless agenda item.

Approval of March 7, 2005 minutes

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lloyd Fayling, supported by Ms. Pam Matelski to accept the minutes of March 7, 2005. Motion carried.

Sunset Date

The legislature has asked that this subcommittee present them with sunset legislation. There was discussion on the issue of extending the sunset date for some buy time. If a date too far in advance is decided on, it takes away the urgency. There would be no changes in the legislation – it is only an extension of the sunset date. After some discussion, Mr. Charon made a **MOTION** to approve the extension date of December 1, 2008. Supported by Ms. Suzan Hensel, the **MOTION** carries.

Prepaid Wireless/Wireless Surcharge

Ms. Miller-Brown has been approached by counties to work on raising prepaid wireless surcharge fee. A provider has requested a refund from the CMRS because they do not fall under the state statute. This provider has made the same request in other states. Ms. Miller-Brown suggested developing a work group to discuss prepaid wireless service. The work group would develop proposed legislation regarding prepaid wireless and attach to the request for an extension of the sunset date. Ms. Hensel made a **MOTION** that a formal workgroup meet and attempt to develop language to find a mechanism for collecting and remittance. If the workgroup cannot come up with appropriate language by June 15, the group will just go ahead with the surcharge extension. Mr. James Fyvie supported. After some discussion, the **MOTION** carries.

Mr. Charon discussed the Wireless Surcharge Fee. He would like the wireless community to support the 9-1-1 centers. Loss of landlines is not helping the financial end of the 9-1-1 centers. Other states are recognizing the issue and often are not hesitating to ask the cell providers to contribute more. Future legislation on emerging technology could be a problem down the road. Mr. Charon noted that he is assessing \$3.80 on his land line customers in Ionia County. One reason for resistance is states are imposing taxes on wireless phones to meet their budgets so this money does not necessarily get diverted to the PSAPs.

Federal VoIP Legislation/FCC Action

FCC is going to require ANI/ALI/selected routing for wireline and VoIP providers. This bill still does not regulate funding issue. A resolution has been passed at the state level backing the FCC action. It would place a mechanism for the United States to have a National 9-1-1 Coordinators office perform a study on an IP based 911 network and language to allow the states to collect IP based fees. The current surcharge is a mechanism of the state statute. Ms. Miller-Brown has drafted a letter to send to Michigan US Senator/Representatives. She has sent to the LAS subcommittee members. After receiving comments from LAS, she will send on to the ETSC Executive Committee then on to the Michigan members of Congress as soon as possible.

Old Business

None

Surcharge Collection Accountability

Mr. Charon discussed surcharges from Talk America. Tax Partners is a collection unit for Talk America and others. There seems to be no consistency in billing the PSAPs for #of lines. Each month the surcharge assessment seems to be different. Some of PSAP managers have been reviewing the billing and are noticing amounts and # of lines are different each month. Ms. Pat Anderson has heard about incidents from other PSAP managers regarding this company. She has referred some other managers to Karen Norcross at the Michigan Public Service Commission to assist with this problem. Ms. Marcia Bianconi noted her district deals with this company and she will forward a phone number to Mr. Charon to contact and further discuss his concerns.

The next LAS meeting will be on Tuesday June 14, 2005 in the HQ 2nd Floor Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Approved:

Lt. Col. Thomas Miller, Chair
Legislative Action Subcommittee